

# Townley School and Pre-School

Christchurch, Wisbech, Cambs. PE14 9NA

Email: office@townley.cambs.sch.uk



Tel/Fax: 01354 638229

Headteacher: Mrs Maria-Anne Higgins

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Standards Committee Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 5.15

**Present:** James Hughes (Chair), Maria Higgins (Head), Maggie Ford, Tony Bradbury, Natalie Paine

**Clerk:** Karen Bird

- 1 **Apologies:** Received from Karen Jackson.  
It was asked to be recorded that Natalie Paine did send her apologies for November's meeting. This was confirmed by the Head.
- 2 **Minutes of last meetings:** These were agreed and signed by the Chair.
- 3 **Matters arising:** The Clerk confirmed Terms of Reference had been updated and submitted to the FGB. The SEND information report had been updated and was now on the website.
- 4 **Update on SDP 2017/18:** The Head confirmed that the new SDP will run from Easter to coincide with the financial year. The Head also made the governors aware of a significant change in budget that will result due to Fairer Funding Policy coming into effect for 2019 budget. Using the formula it was thought we would be looking at approximately losing £63k. This forecast was also confirmed at the Leadership Meeting. The Head confirmed that she thought it advantageous to consider this cut in the coming budget and went onto explain how we were currently funded.

The Head was asked if other schools in the area would be affected. All schools were looking at a cut, although ours did appear somewhat higher.

The question was raised as to what the School was doing or could do. The Head reported she was having various meetings and Fred Yeulett was setting up a meeting with Steve Barclay, local MP, to hopefully enlist his help. There is also the question of the money promised to schools in this area, which so far has not been allocated. It was also hoped that because we were the only school within a 4 mile radius would offer some sort of protection.

The Head reported that although we had improved some resources, a lot of the school's resources are outdated and looked that way. This point Ofsted will recognise. The Head confirmed that her first line of priority was Standards. Maths

*James Hughes*

*19th April 2017*

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needs to be improved and staff are spending a lot of time planning and are struggling to meet the current curriculum requirements with the outdated resources to hand. Local Government are looking at schools investing in the Singapore Scheme, this requires new text books at a rough cost of £10 per child along with training for staff on how to implement the scheme. There is also a need to improve writing within the school.

Safeguarding is also an ongoing issue. The school currently has an allegation which due to confidential reasons the Head could not discuss, and it was hoped that this would not provoke a No Notice Ofsted Inspection. The Head emphasized the need for Governors to undertake an audit and it was hoped that Karen Jackson would be willing to undertake this in the near future. When Ofsted undertake a normal inspection the Head will have to disclose this allegation and the Governors' need to be trained and prepared to be able to answer and have proof to hand, Ofsted won't just take the Head's word we are following protocol. For another Governor to undertake the audit they would have to have training and the Head expressed her concerns as to not having this undertaken by a Governor with children in the school.

**ACTION:** Karen Jackson to be contacted and asked to carry out an Audit.

- 5 **Review of Tracker Data /Pupil Premium / Vulnerable Children:** The Head shared with the Governors the current Tracker Data and went onto explain the coding used and that there are 6 levels per academic year, namely one per half term.

The Governors agreed this information was helpful for them but asked if the summary could be broken down further into half termly. The Head confirmed this could be done

It was explained that old to new curriculum the expectations were raised so some current years the data doesn't look as if children are achieving as expected but they are playing the catch up game. The Head was also aware of shortfalls in teaching.

When asked if The Head was targeting these shortfalls within teaching, she confirmed that yes strategies were in place and the current staff changes had already addressed some of the issues, along with Jo Rolph supporting year 6 on a 2 – 1 basis. The Head further went onto explain that Class 3's current teachers have a different method of teaching and delivery, and are on a learning curve themselves. It was noticed that Pupil Premium and Vulnerable Children were achieving more and that attendance in the first week and half had been 100%.

*DM Hughes*

*19th April 2017*



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Class One teacher is proving an asset to the school and is receiving lots of training and support. Pre-School have been praised by another local school who recently visited.

- 6 **EYFS** – The Head showed a PowerPoint to demonstrate to Governors the importance of developing motor skills through play.
- 7 **Governor Monitoring** – There have been no Governor monitoring and the Chair of Governors was asked to send emails to Governors reminding them of this point.

**ACTION:** Chair of Governors to Email Governors

- 8 **Policies for Review** – The following policies had been reviewed by Governors:

- Substance Use and Misuse
- Intimate Care
- Supporting Pupils with medical Conditions

**ACTION:** Policies were accepted by all Governors present.

- 9 **Date of next meeting:** Was amended to Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017 @ 5.15pm

The meeting closed at 6.45pm

*M.A. Higgins*

*19th April 2017*